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News Release

*For Immediate Release*

### **ArtsFiesta! Moves to Park Central Square, Sheds Admission**

The Springfield Sister Cities Association is pleased to announce its annual celebration of Mexican arts and culture, ArtsFiesta!, is moving to Park Central Square this year.

**The family-friendly event will be held from 6 to 9 p.m., Friday, May 3, 2013.** The move to Park Central Square will bring ArtsFiesta! into the heart of downtown Springfield on one of the most vibrant and exciting nights of the year – the First Friday in May. ArtsFiesta! will kick off a weekend of center-city events that also includes the First Friday Art Walk downtown and the 33rd annual Artsfest on Historic Walnut Street.

The new venue isn't the only change. This year ArtsFiesta! will be free of charge, and beer from Springfield's own Mother's Brewing Company will be available for purchase on site, along with Mexican-themed food.

As always, there will be authentic mariachi music and traditional Mexican dancing. Mariachi Viva Xalisco, from Springfield's Mexican sister city of Tlaquepaque, Jalisco, will perform live music. Other festivities will include live dance performances by Grupo Latino Americano and Grupo Libertad; bilingual storytelling for children and a display of art from Tlaquepaque at the Park Central Branch Library.

"Holding ArtsFiesta! on the Square with free admission makes this the perfect way to experience Mexican and Latino culture right here in Springfield and kick off First Friday downtown," said Cindy Jobe, Springfield Sister Cities Coordinator.

Guests are encouraged to bring a lawn chair. Free parking is readily available at the College Station and Heer's car parks just west of the Square, public lots at Olive and Boonville and elsewhere downtown.

Great Southern Bank is this year's presenting sponsor for ArtsFiesta! Bilingual storytelling is made possible thanks to support from Dr. Michael Hanks. Other sponsors include Nippes & Associates, the Downtown Springfield Community Improvement District, Mother's Brewing Co., and the City of Tlaquepaque.

Further information about performance schedules, vendors and more will be released as the information is finalized in the coming weeks.

## About SSCA

Springfield Sister Cities Association is a non-profit organization dedicated to helping people of the City of Springfield and people of similar cities in foreign nations acquire a consciousness of each other and to understand one another as individuals, as members of their community, and as part of our global community.

For more information on other upcoming SSCA events, visit: [PeaceThroughPeople.org](http://PeaceThroughPeople.org) or 'like' the page at [Facebook.com/SpringfieldSisterCities](https://Facebook.com/SpringfieldSisterCities).

For more information, media contact: Cindy Jobe, Sister Cities Coordinator, (417) 864-1341; or Jenny Fillmer Edwards, Springfield-Greene County Park Board, (417) 864-2176.